

Message Text

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17

ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 /007 W
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P R 050620Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7982
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KATHMANDU 1362

DEPT FOR OC/P. BANGKOK FOR REGIONAL COURIER OFFICER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM

SUBJECT: REROUTING OF AIR POUCHES

THE EMBASSY WISHES TO INSTITUTE, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THE ROUTING OF ALL INCOMING AIR POUCHES VIA BANGKOK VICE NEW DELHI. THE SERVICE IN THE PAST HAS BEEN UNSATISFACTORY AND IS GETTING WORSE. WE HAVE RECEIVED NO AIR POUCHES THIS WEEK. LAST POUCH RECEIVED WAS MARCH 30 (DESPATCHED MARCH 25). WE WILL RECEIVE NO FURTHER SERVICE UNTIL APRIL 8TH.

THE MAIN TIE-UP APPEARS BE IN NEW DELHI WHERE POUCHES ARE HELD IN CUSTOMS FOR UP TO 48 HOURS. WE HAVE PROTESTED THROUGH PANAM AND THEY IN TURN HAVE ASKED INDIAN CUSTOMS TO EXPEDITE TRANSSHIPMENT OF EMBASSY POUCHES.

LOCAL PANAM REPRESENTATIVE HAS BEEN CHECKING SINCE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON (VIA TELEX) TO FIND OUT IF ANY POUCHES ARE BEING HELD IN CUSTOMS IN NEW DELHI. TO DATE NO ANSWER HAS BEEN RECEIVED TO EITHER OF THE TWO CABLES.

REROUTING TO BANGKOK WOULD GIVE KATHMANDU 5 DAYS A WEEK SERVICE VICE THE TWICE WEEKLY AT PRESENT. THAI INTERNATIONAL AND ROYAL NEPAL AIRLINES COULD BOTH BE UTILIZED AS WAS PREVIOUSLY DONE THROUGH NEW DELHI WITH RNAC AND INDIAN AIRLINES. INDIAN AIRLINES PROVED TO BE UNSATISFACTORY BECAUSE OF DELAYS IN PICKING UP
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POUCHES, SOMETIMES AS LONG AS 5 DAYS.

WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ASKING PANAM TO ROUTE EMBASSY
KATHMANDU'S AIR POUCHES TO BANGKOK AND INFORMING EMBASSIES
ACCORDINGLY.
CARGO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KATHMA01362
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740077-0132
From: KATHMANDU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740464/aaaacgug.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OC
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Aug-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <10-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REROUTING OF AIR POUCHES THE EMBASSY WISHES TO INSTITUTE, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THE ROUTING
TAGS: ACOM, NP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005